

COMMENDING JANE MARGARET O'BRIEN

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I pay special tribute to the outstanding accomplishments of Jane Margaret O'Brien, Ph.D. president of St. Mary's College since 1996. I was a member of the St. Mary's Board of Trustees and have known Maggie for many years. I have the utmost respect for her and what she has been able to accomplish at St. Mary's during her tenure.

During her 13 years as president, the College has distinguished itself as a premier honors college that excels at scholarship, research, creative thinking, community engagement, and an appreciation and commitment to world issues, cultures, and communities.

Dr. O'Brien provided critical guidance to the development of the college's external relations and fundraising efforts during its transition to the Honors College Curriculum. Fundraising during Dr. O'Brien's tenure has profoundly reshaped the college's scholarships, professorships, lecture and learning series, arts, athletic, and community programs.

I will provide two examples of Dr. O'Brien's wonderful legacy. The Center for the Study of Democracy, an advisory board on which I have had the pleasure of serving since 2002, was established with a \$2 million National Endowment for the Humanities—NEH—grant and challenge matches. The center is a leading programmatic initiative between the college and neighboring Historic St. Mary's City. This relationship continues to flourish with the opportunity for students to serve as Maryland Heritage Scholars and for faculty from the college and the city to serve as Maryland Heritage Fellows.

The Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, where Dr. O'Brien will continue her work for St. Mary's, was founded in 1975 for two purposes: to establish in Oxford a permanent institute for the interdisciplinary study of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, and to provide academic training for overseas students who wish to study at Oxford.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Maggie O'Brien for her stellar leadership at St. Mary's College and in wishing her success in her continuing work on behalf of this unique institution.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARK RIVER, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I wish today to recognize a community in North Dakota that will be celebrating its 125th anniversary. On July 2–5, 2009, the residents of Park River will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

The town of Park River was founded in 1884. It was named for its location on the Park River. The river itself was named by pioneer fur trader Alexander Henry, to note the corrals or parks

that the Assiniboine Indians had built by the river to herd wild animals.

Park River's town motto, "Park River, The Town with a Heart," truly captures the essence of the community where people are always willing to lend a helping hand. The town's all volunteer ambulance service, the Walsh County EMS, operates 24 hours a day and demonstrates the town's willingness to help each other out.

Today, the town's economy is mostly agricultural based, but also does focus on incorporating businesses in the technology and health care sector. Park River's health care industry is epitomized by its state-of-the-art hospital, First Care Health Center. This center has been providing quality medical care for the past 55 years to the residents of Park River and those in surrounding communities.

To celebrate their 125th anniversary, the people of Park River have planned a number of events including a polka fest, talent show, fireworks, road rally, an all class reunion, an American Legion baseball reunion game, and a parade that will be held on July 4th.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Park River, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring Park River and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Park River that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Park River has a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF CANDO, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On July 2–5, the residents of Cando will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Founded in 1884, Cando was designated the county seat for Towner County and named for the "Can Do" spirit of the pioneers. That spirit is still visible in this active community, where hunting, fishing, camping, and bird-watching are all popular activities. In fact, ducks are so common to the area that Cando is known as the duck capital of North Dakota.

This active community, located in north-central North Dakota, is home to two museums, a golf course, bowling alley, and many thriving businesses.

In honor of Cando's 125th anniversary, town officials have organized activities including a golf tournament, street dance, folk dance, parade, potluck, tractor pull, and variety show.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Cando, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future.

By honoring Cando and all other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Cando that have helped shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Cando has a proud past and a bright future.●

COMMENDING LARRY G. ROBERTSON

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today, I honor the service of a great Arkansan. Captain Larry G. Robertson will retire at the end of this month after proudly serving in the Arkansas State Police for 32 years, providing protection and assistance to Arkansans across the State.

Captain Robertson's record of accomplishment spans three decades. He began his law enforcement career in 1973 as Star City, AR, chief of police before he was commissioned on January 17, 1977, as a state trooper assigned to the highway patrol division, troop E headquartered in Dumas, AR. Robertson distinguished himself in the line of duty and worked his way up the promotion ladder quickly from the rank of sergeant, to lieutenant, and finally, in 1999, to the rank of captain, highway patrol commander, troop F, the largest geographical troop in the State covering nine counties in southeast Arkansas.

Under Captain Robertson's leadership as troop F commander, his troopers consistently led the State in DWI arrests and other activities despite having fewer personnel than most other troops. His dedication to keeping his fellow Arkansans safe extended beyond the highway patrol division. During his 30 years of service, he led the Arkansas motor vehicle inspection team and served as a sniper and later commander of troop E special response team.

Captain Robertson retires from the Arkansas State Police on June 30, 2009. His commitment to excellence sets an example for not only his fellow law enforcement officers, for whom he is a mentor and friend, but also for those in the civilian community he worked diligently to protect. Although he will be missed in the line of duty, I wish him continued success in his retirement and thank him for his service to our great State of Arkansas.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF McLAUGHLIN, SOUTH DAKOTA

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize McLaughlin, SD. Founded in 1909, the city of McLaughlin will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year.

Named after MAJ James McLaughlin, the city of McLaughlin is located in Corson County. McLaughlin possesses the strong sense of community that makes South Dakota a great place to work and live. Throughout its